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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Minoru KOYAMA

Group Art Unit: 1762

Application No.: 10/647,225

Examiner: A. BASHORE

Filed: August 26, 2003

Docket No.: 116742

For: FILM FORMING METHOD, FILM FORMING APPARATUS, METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING DEVICE, AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING  
DEVICE

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

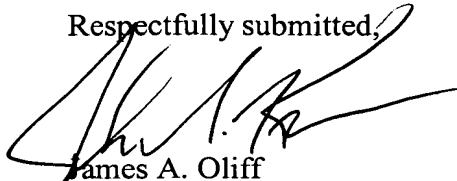
Sir:

In reply to the October 12, 2006 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-4, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JSK/dxc

Date: October 13, 2006

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